

CLAIMS**What is Claimed is:**

1 1. A supportive spring base for a mattress for a place to sleep and/or
2 recline, the supportive spring base having a plurality of spring slats running at a
3 parallel distance to one another, and having longitudinal struts which run
4 transversely with respect to the spring slats and belong to a frame, the spring slats
5 being mounted with their end regions on the longitudinal struts, characterized by
6 connecting elements (13, 31, 32, 35, 37) for connecting at least two spring slats
7 (10) in each case.

1 2. The supportive spring base as claimed in claim 1, characterized in
2 that the connecting elements (13, 31, 32, 35, 37) are of at least partially elastic
3 design for transmitting at least part of the movement of a particular spring slat (10)
4 to at least one preferably adjacent spring slat (10).

1 3. The supportive spring base as claimed in claim 1, characterized in
2 that vertical compressive deflections of the connecting elements (13, 31, 32, 35)
3 and/or spring slats (10) are at least partially transmitted to adjacent spring slats
4 (10) by the connecting elements (13, 31, 32, 35), and one particular connecting
5 element (13, 31, 32, 35) is arranged between two adjacent, parallel spring slats
6 (10).

1 4. The supporting spring base as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in
2 that the connecting elements (13, 31, 32, 35, 37) are mounted, in particular
3 elastically and/or in an articulated manner, on at least two different spring slats
4 (10).

1 5. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in
2 that the connecting elements (13, 31, 32, 25) are mounted on the spring slats (10)
3 in such a manner that the connecting elements (13, 31, 32, 35, 37) are movable
4 relative to the spring slats (10) both in a rotational and translational manner.

1 6. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in
2 that the connecting elements (13, 31, 32, 35) have at least one spring element
3 which is preferably designed as a bellows (33, 36), a spring plate and/or an elastic
4 wing (14).

1 7. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in
2 that the connecting elements (13, 31, 32, 35) have spring elements, load-bearing
3 means (15, 34) and/or suspension devices (16, 18) for connecting the connecting
4 elements (13, 31, 32, 35) to the spring slats (10).

1 8. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in
2 that the connecting elements (13, 31, 32, 35) have suspension devices (16, 18)
3 which can be rotated relative to the spring slats (10) about a longitudinal axis of
4 the particular spring slat (10), and in that the suspension devices (16, 18) are
5 additionally movable in a translational manner with respect to the spring slats
6 (10).

1 9. The supportive spring base as claimed in claim 1, characterized in
2 that at least one suspension device (16) of the connecting elements (13, 31, 32,
3 35) is assigned at least one locking device (24) which fixes the particular
4 connecting element (13, 31, 32, 35) nondisplaceably in the longitudinal direction
5 of at least one spring slat (10) in a frictional and/or non-positive manner, and/or
6 the or each locking device (24) is connected flexibly to the particular connecting
7 element (13, 31, 32, 35), namely the load-bearing means (15, 34) of the same, in
8 such a manner that the or each locking device (24) does not substantially impair
9 the mobility of the suspension devices (16, 18).

1 10. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in
2 that the spring slats (10) are connected by a connecting element (37) having a
3 plurality of continuous strands (39), the strands (39) running in a direction
4 deviating from the longitudinal direction of the spring slats and extending
5 transversely with respect to the longitudinal direction of the spring slats (10).

1 11. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 10, characterized in
2 that the strands (39) run parallel to one another at identical distances, the
3 distances between the strands (39) being smaller than the distances between the
4 spring slats (10).

1 12. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 10, characterized in
2 that the strands (39) are of elastic design, and consist at least for the most part of
3 plastic.

1 13. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 10, characterized in
2 that the strands (39) are connected to the spring slats (10) at the point at which
3 they extend over the spring slats (10).

1 14. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 12, characterized in
2 that, in the regions between the spring slats (10), the strands (39) can be changed
3 in respect of their elastic properties by means of inserts and/or attachments and
4 can be provided with greater stiffness.

1 15. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 10, characterized in
2 that the strands (39) are connected by transverse strands (40), and the strands
3 (39) and the transverse strands (40) are connected to one another integrally at
4 their crossing points to form a net (38).

1 16. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 15, characterized in
2 that the net (38) is connected to the spring slats (10) in the region of transverse
3 strands (40), which extend over the spring slats (10), by means of releasable
4 elastic clamps (41).

1 17. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 15, characterized in
2 that the net (38) can be stiffened by means of inserts and/or attachments between
3 the spring slats (10) in order to change the coupling to the spring slats (10), and/or
4 at least areas of the net (38) are provided with disk springs.

1 18. The supportive spring base as claimed in Claim 15, characterized in
2 that the connecting elements (13, 31, 32, 35) and the net (38) are of such elastic
3 design that the supportive spring base can be rolled up.